

Pennsylvania Chief Sufferer

The Japanese Beetle is now recognized in the Philadelphia area as a pest against which steps must be taken by golf clubs to prevent turf injury. In fact the treatment of the greens and some portions of the fairways (employing methods which will be described later) has now become an important part of the routine work of greenkeeping in that section. The Oriental Beetle has not as yet, to my knowledge, invaded a golf course, but it is doing serious damage to lawns in Connecticut and New York State. It is only a question of time before golf courses in that section will be compelled to treat their turf to prevent injury by this insect. I have just recently received a letter from a golf course at Mount Vernon, New York with specimens of beetles found on the greens. These proved to be the *Autocercia* Beetle, thus indicating that this beetle also will have to be reckoned with from the golf course standpoint.

As stated in the earlier portion of this article our native grubs have caused annoyance and loss to golf clubs only at intervals due to the fact that these grubs are held down by parasites and disease. Unfortunately it does not appear that we will escape so lightly with these imported species of grubs.

Yearly Treatment Needed

In the first place these imported beetles are not parasitized to any great extent as yet in this country and this condition cannot be corrected until the Federal Government's present campaign of parasite importation from the Orient has time to come to fruition. Secondly, all three of these grubs have a one year life cycle. By that I mean the egg to grub to beetle transition all occurs within one year which means that there is an annual crop of grubs which are two-thirds grown by August or September at which period they feed voraciously on fine turf and when present in sufficient numbers they ruin it.

This means that in those sections of the country infested by these imported beetles the golf clubs face a grub problem each Fall, and so far, in at least the Japanese Beetle, there have been no failures in the crop of grubs. It may be said therefore that in those sections infested with these beetles, grub control is now in the front rank of golf course maintenance problems and an added expense to the usual costs of conducting a club. The

old method of waiting for our native grubs to disappear won't work with these imported foreigners. It is a question of either treating the turf to prevent grub injury or losing the grass.

What Is the Answer?

In the foregoing account I have related in an entirely cold blooded manner the situation as I see it in relation to these three imported pests. If it brings a cold sweat to more than one Greens Committee chairman I am sorry but facts are facts. Besides there is now nothing in particular to sweat about anyway. Five years ago these grubs had several of us sweating and myself not the least of the lot for in 1920 I was handed the job of finding a method or methods of controlling these grubs in fine turf. During the next five years was when I did the sweating. What was accomplished in the way of control measures as a result of this seven years of research, how it was done, the extent to which the methods are now in practice and the co-operation I received from the United States Golf Association Greens Section will all form the subject matter of subsequent articles in this magazine.

Price Tags Are Silent Salesmen

HAVE a price tag on every article of merchandise in the shop, with the price plainly marked thereon. Many a member has come into the pro's shop for some trivial purchase and on the way out has become interested in some other item—a club, a bag, some golf hose.

If the member feels he'd like to own such an article, he looks for the price, which, if easily found and plainly marked often means the difference between a sale and the loss of a sale. The pro may be busy with another customer and rather than interrupt, the member may leave without purchasing.

Think it over.

The most important factor to be taken into account when deciding on the location of the new clubhouse is whether or not the new building will have the privacy it deserves. If possible, locate it so that trees hide the building from the public road.